

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 00469 111752Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-10 /095 W

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R 111408Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7508

INFO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 0469

E.O. 11652:/A

TAGS: PINR, PDEV, CH, GB

SUBJ: VISIT OF PRC ASSISTANCE DELEGATION

1. A 13-MEMBER PRC DELEGATION ARRIVED LIBREVILLE MARCH 7 TO PLAN ASSISTANCE PROJECTS IN GABON. FIVE MEMBERS OF DELEGATION ARE INVESTIGATING CONSTRUCTION OF TWO MEDICAL CENTERS/CLINICS, ONE WITH ABOUT 50 BEDS FOR FRANCEVILLE, THE OTHER WITH 25-30 BEDS FOR LIBREVILLE. OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATION ARE AGRICULTURAL SPECIALISTS WHO WILL STUDY FOOD PRODUCTION PROJECTS IN INTERIOR. FYI: PRC ALREADY HAS 40 AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS WORKING AT THREE EXPERIMENTAL FARMS IN GABON.

2. DELEGATION'S VISIT DESCRIBED LOCALLY AS FOLLOW-UP TO AGREEMENTS PRESIDENT BONGO SIGNED DURING STATE VISIT TO PRC IN JUNE 1975. CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPPING AND STAFFING OF TWO CLINICS PRESUMABLY WILL BE FINANCED BY 25 MILLION DOLLAR INTEREST-FREE LOAN THAT PRC ACCORDED GABON LAST OCTOBER.

3. COMMENT: IMPROVED HEALTH SERVICES AND FOOD PRODUCTION ARE TWO OF MOST KEENLY FELT NEEDS BY GABONESE AND RECOGNIZED AS PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT BY GOG.STEIGMAN

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